



IRELAND

RUGBY LEAGUE

V5

SCOTLAND

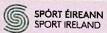
RUGBY LEAGUE

SATURDAY
27TH OCTOBER 2018
MORTON STADIUM, SANTRY
2PM KICK OFF

PROGRAMME €1.00







BLK

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

It is a great pleasure to be able to welcome you all to the new home of rugby league in Ireland. We enter a new and exciting time for our sport with great young talent on display today. This afternoon will set us on our journey to the world cup. The euros are the stepping stone into the future for Irish rugby league and with your support we can all embark on this great journey. It would not be right to miss this opportunity to thank all involved at all levels who made this day possible. The lads on the pitch are about to do the hard yards but there has

been much yardage done to get here. Failte roimh an-te (a very warm welcome) to our guests and we look forward to a good day and evening together. Rugby is a sport for life and that is part of the enjoyment of these games to see old faces again. Rugby league in Ireland is growing and this would not be possible without Sport Ireland funding and our sponsors, thank you. To view our plans going forward check out our website for updates and information www.rli.ie We start with two home games and the third away to Wales.

There is a lot done but more to do and we have the team both on and off the pitch to succeed. Time for talking is over, Res Non Verba (actions not words).

Barry Coade Cathaoirleach Rugby League Ireland

OFFICIAL CHARITY OF RUGBY LEAGUE IRELAND



YAP Ireland is a leading provider of intensive support programmes for young people and families. It uses a strengths-based, family focused approach delivering intensive support over 6 months to young people with complex needs helping them to achieve their goals. For

more information, please visit www.yapireland.ie

YAP Ireland was founded in 2002 and today is operating in 22 counties across Ireland. YAP Ireland employs 32 permanent staff and approximately 150 advocates. In 2017, 487 young people and their families participated on the YAP programme, including 280 referred for the first time.

In 2017, 83% of young people on the YAP programme reported an improvement in their selfesteem and confidence, 89% reported an improvement in self-harm behaviours, 86% reported an improvement in substance abuse, 77% reported an improvement in anger issues and 83% reported an improvement in their emotional wellbeing. These outcomes are based on data for 1690 young people who YAP have worked with between January 2011 and October 2017, with views of the young people, families, referrers, advocates and managers measured when the young people enter the programme and then again at their exit. ST/TSports

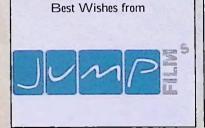
STATSports are delighted to work with Rugby League Ireland and to extend our relationship following last year's rugby World Cup. We are an Irish company and have a long history of supporting our Ireland's National teams across an array of sports with the world's most advanced performance monitoring system. Our aim is to assist these teams competing at the highest level in improving the on field output from their athletes on game day.

Rugby League Ireland have gone from strength to strength in recent times and we very much look forward to working with the team through the qualifying campaign for the 2021 World Cup in England.

Richard Byrne - Stat Sports Head of Business Development







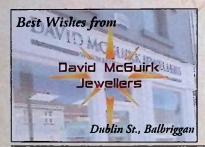
Knock on



Wolfhound



- Scott Grix, Wakefield Trinity
- Alan McMahon, Waterford Vikings
- Jack Higginson, Leeds Carnegie
- James Bentley, St. Helens
- Ethan Ryan, Bradford Bulls
- Greg McNally, Bradford Bulls
- Liam Finn, Newcastle Thunder (Captain)
- Liam Byrne, Wigan Warriors
- Declan O'Donnell, Wigan Warriors
- George King, Wakefield Trinity
- Tyrone McCarthy, Salford Red Devils
- Will Hope, Swinton Lions
- 13. Lewis Bienek, Hull FC
- 14. Peadar Ryan, Coventry Bears
- Ronan Michael, Huddersfield Giants
- Gareth Gill, Longhorns RL
- 17. Michael Ward, Batley Bulldogs
- Ed O'Keeffe, Galway Tribesmen
- 19. Richie McHugh, Longhorns RL



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Bainisteoir Stuart Littler

Cóiste Cúnta Eamon O'Carroll Gerard Corcoran Carl de Chenu

Staitisticí **Chris Wharton**

Scores

4



- David Scott Batley Bulldogs
- Lewis Tierney Catalans Dragons 2.
- Davey Dixon Keighley Cougars
- Scott Plumridge Glasgow Titans
- Archie Andrade Wakefield Trinity
- Will Oakes Hull KR
- Murray Mitchell Strathmore Silverbacks 7.
- Matt Hogg Newcastle University and **Edinburgh Eagles**
- Finlay Hutchison Edinburgh Eagles
- Rvan Brierley Toronto Wolfpack
- 11. Oscar Thomas Sheffield Eagles
- 12. Ben Kavanagh Halifax (Captain)
- Kieran Moran Keighley Cougars
- 14. Kane Bentley Toulouse
- 15. Lewis Clarke Edinburgh Eagles
- 16. Billy Mcconnachie Ipswich Jets
- 17, Luke Westman Berkeley
- 18. Nick Glohe Lakes United Seagulls
- Frankie Mariano Doncaster
- 20. Sam Luckley Newcastle Thunder

Head Coaches:

John Duffy and Chris Chester

Head Physio:

Dan Ramsden

Assistant Physio:

Trent Bowden

Strength and conditioning:

Greg Stebbings

Team Doctor:

Paul Stockton

Team Manager:

Mark Richardson

Scores

5







Alan Mac Mahon - Waterford Vikings RL

A dual code Irish born international who burst onto the scene in the World Cup qualifiers vs Spain and Russia in 2016 scoring 4 tries in two games A place in Mark Astons World Cup squad beckoned for Mac Mahon a year later

Here's a quote from the man himself on these upcoming games

"I think these euros will be a massive step up for rugby league in Ireland. After three great performances in the World Cup last year I think we have

some unfinished business left to prove how good we are and how much we are growing the sport in Ireland. Qualifying for the 2021 World Cup would give us three years to prepare. We have a new coach this year in Stuart littler and it's always exciting to get involved with new coaches especially one who was so passionate and has played with Ireland previously. Playing with the professionals from England is always great. It's great to have the chance to step up from an amateur to a professional level and get involved in a high tenacity environment. I know a lot of lads playing in Ireland would give anything to get this opportunity and all the domestic players take great pride when we get chosen to play."

Ronan Micheal - Huddersfield Giants



A part of the squad that went to Serbia for the European 18's championships Ronan performed well enough to be brought into Stuart Littler's European senior squad for the upcoming games

Ronan who has played at 16's and 18's for Ireland Rugby League, was a part of the Longhorns RL unbeaten season this year. He alongside James Mulvaney, Kevin Varga, Josh McNamee and Eoin Creaby have formed a youthful element to the Longhorns squad which reached the Republic final. Ronan then took up an offer from Huddersfield Giants Academy and was part of the Giants squad which eventually lost in the semi final to a Liam Byrne and Declan O'Donnell inspired Wigan Warriors Academy. Some great work done recently at underage level leading to this good fortune with a lot of youngsters coming through * Ní neart go chur le chéile.

*Being a part of the Irish squad has been an honour from the very start. Singing your national anthem in front of your family and friends is more than most could dream of. I have played with Ireland u17s twice against Wales last year and with Ireland u19s three times this summer in European championships also. It was surreal getting to travel with a great bunch of boys and represent my country. Although it was an extraordinary experience playing underage for Ireland I am honoured to be a part of the senior squad for the up coming games. I wouldn't believe it if someone told me less than 2 years ago I'd be stood where I am now. I am looking forward to getting around the lads in camp and getting to know the buachaills. Many of them have a lot more knowledge than me and I feel I am lucky as a younger player to get the opportunity to be involved and learn from the more experienced boys in the camp. My friends, coaches and especially my family have been very supportive throughout this process and my parents are thrilled that I have been given such an opportunity. I am lucky to have such a good bunch of people around me and to have been involved with the Longhorns and underage representative squads before this experience."

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KEY PLAYERS - SCOTLAND



Name - Ryan Brierley Position - Halfback Club -Toronto Wolfpack

Brierley currently at Toronto Wolfpack, has been one of the best running half's in the championship over the last couple of seasons. Formerly at Leigh under Paul Rowley he followed his coach to Toronto where the Wolfpack lost an agonizingly close game to an Alex Walker inspired

London Broncos in this years million pound game. Keep an eye on Brierley's support play as he has electric pace and will be difficult to catch



Name - Alex Walker Club - London Broncos Position - Fullback

Possibly the most in-form Scottish player playing at the moment. His security at the back provides his team a good platform to pick up a set from wether it's his footwork or catches from high bombs or long kicks he's very dependable. His attacking play is just as good as his defensive plays and he will be in the middle of all what's good when it comes to this

Scottish sides performance. Led the London Broncos back to super league this year in an man of the match performance against the Toronto Wolf pack in the million pound game.

KEY PLAYERS -IRELAND



Name - George King Position - Prop Team - Warrington Wolves

George was part of the Warrington Wolves team that competed in the grand final and challenge cup this year under Steve Price. A grafter and no nonsense player he also has a lot of skill and experience even though being at a young age has seen him be a part of the Wolves middle which

includes a number of high class internationals Chris Hill England, Ben Murdoch, Masilla Tonga and Mike Cooper, England. George's performances in the World Cup for Ireland last year, showed his class and desire at this level and he will be a player both the team and fans want to see lead from the front



Name - Alan MacMahon Team - Waterford Vikings Position - Centre

A member of both the Irish students and Irish domestics teams recently Alan burst on to the scene with his try scoring rate in the two World Cup qualifiers vs Spain and Russia respectively in 2016. Has the ability to ghost through tackles and his foot work allows him to get through tight defenses. Will be good for tries on his edge if the middle battle allows for good ball for the Irish side.



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